

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATIONS**

Art Unit: (Examiner: Tima M. McGuthry-Banks)

Applicants: STEPHEN M. POTTER
PEDRO GUTENBERG QUARIGUASI NETTO

Serial No: 10/789,694

Filed: February 27, 2004

Title: COMBINED PRE-TREATMENT PROCESS FOR ENABLING FEED
MATERIAL
TO BE CHARGED IN DIRECT REDUCTION PROCESS

Charlotte, North Carolina
April 14, 2008

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2008, kindly enter the following amendment to the claims adding new claims 27-40 and canceling claims 11-26.

Amendments to the Claims begin on Page 2

Remarks begin on Page 5.